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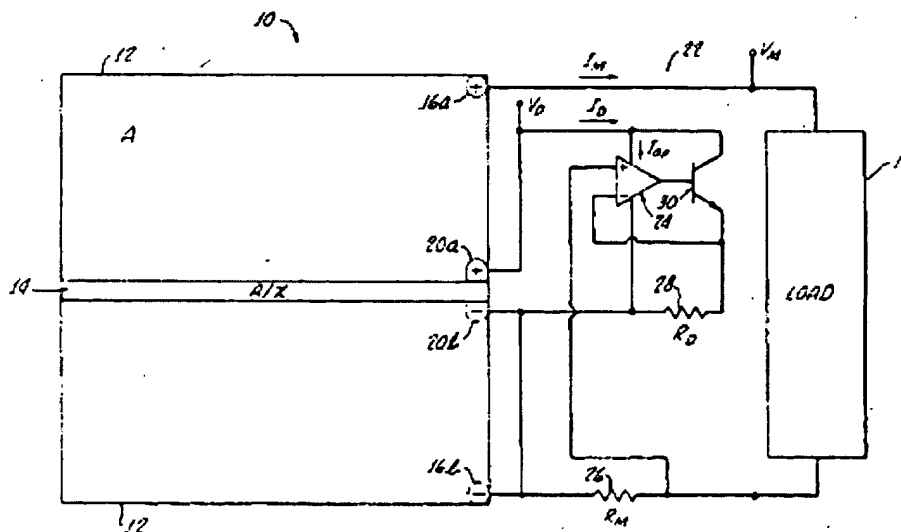


FIG. 1.

Family Lookup

EP0997742

State-of-charge-measurable batteries

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Abstract:

A storage device (10) allows the state of charge of a main battery (12) to be determined by measuring the state of charge of a dummy battery (14). The storage device (10) may provide power to an electronic appliance such as a portable computer (11). The main and dummy batteries (12 and 14) each have a storage capacity and a self-discharge rate. The storage capacity of the dummy battery (14) is less than the storage capacity of the main battery (12); for example, the storage capacity of the dummy battery (14) may be only about 1% of that of the main battery (12). The main and dummy batteries (12 and 14) are configured so that the self-discharge rates thereof are substantially equal. The storage device (10) also includes discharge circuitry (22) which is configured so that the dummy battery (14) discharges at a rate faster than the main battery (12) when a load is connected to and drawing current from the main battery (12).

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Patent



Next
Patent



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